

News Release

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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IDWR CANCELS PUBLIC HEARING, CHANGES TO CONFERENCE ON BASINS 35, 36 DESIGNATIONS AS GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREAS

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho - Aug. 27, 2001 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

A public hearing set for tomorrow in Boise to determine whether or not to designate all of Administrative Basins 35 and 36 as Ground Water Management Areas has been cancelled, the Idaho Department of Water Resources said today.

In place of the hearing, IDWR officials will conduct a less formal conference involving both sides in the case in an attempt to resolve the issue.

IDWR officials stress that tomorrow's conference, set for 10:00 a.m. at the IDWR State Office in Boise, is not related to the two Ground Water Management Areas designated August 3 by the Department. Nor will the conference deal with the possible issuance of curtailment orders for ground water rights.

Twin Falls and North Side Canal Companies petitioned IDWR to designate all of Basin 35 as a Ground Water Management Area. Clear Springs Foods also petitioned the agency to designate Basin 36 as a Ground Water Management Area. Other water users then protested the two petitions. The conference is designed to try to resolve the issue before public hearings are held.